

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICANT : Sproul  
INVENTION: : SURGICAL TOOL WITH AN ELECTROACTIVE  
POLYMER FOR USE IN A BODY  
SERIAL NUMBER :  
FILING DATE : (Filed Herewith)  
EXAMINER: :  
GROUP ART UNIT :  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 2630.001

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

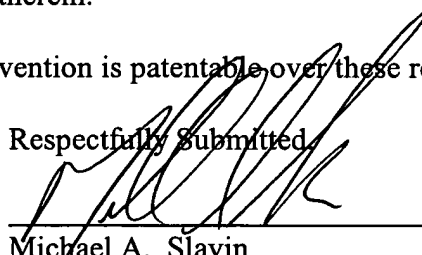
Sir:

Pursuant to the Duty to Disclose under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the references cited on the accompanying form PTO-1449 are hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner for independent evaluation. A copy of each reference is enclosed. The references were cited in the specification and their relevancy is set forth therein.

Applicant submits that the present invention is patentable over these references.

Date: 11/26/03

Respectfully Submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Form PTO-1449**  
(Rev. 2-88)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
**2630.001**

APPLICATION NO.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT**

*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

APPLICANT  
**Sproul**

FILING DATE  
(Filed Herewith)

GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

DISPENSE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3,731,681	05/73	Blackshear et al.			
		5,176,641	01/93	Idriss			
		6,248,110	06/01	Reiley et al.			
		6,582,439	06/03	Sproul			
		6,586,859	07/03	Kornbluh et al.			
		6,632,235	10/03	Weikel et al.			

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

			US 2003/0006669 A1; Pub Date: January 9, 2003; "Rolled Electroactive Polymers".
			Ashley, "Artificial Muscles", Scientific American (Oct 2003), pp. 53-59.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\* EXAMINER: Initial if a citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.